

In the Claims

1.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system of music devices operatively coupled together, the system comprising:

plural apparatus in physical proximity with each other and capable of at least one-way communication therebetween of an audio score,

at least two such apparatus each comprising:

an audio score synthesis mechanism including a playing mechanism for playing the synthesized audio score;

an audio score mixing mechanism coupled with said synthesis mechanism for mixing plural audio scores to produce another audio score having components of each of the plural audio scores; **and**

an audio score input mechanism coupled with said mixing mechanism to provide one or more input audio scores thereto for mixing with the synthesized and played audio score,

said synthesis mechanism, said mixing mechanism and said input mechanism being operable in real time to create a playable audio score having components of plural audio scores produced by said plural proximate apparatus;

a recording mechanism to store said playable audio score; and

an upload mechanism to upload said playable audio score to an external processor for at least one of editing, archival recording, outplaying, and CDROM programming.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the playable audio score ~~for transmitting by said transmit mechanism~~ is in the form of digital data.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the digital data is formatted in accordance with a musical instrument digital interface (MIDI) standard.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said audio score synthesis mechanism of said at least two such apparatus further includes a playing mechanism for playing the synthesized audio score and further comprising at least another such apparatus operatively coupled with said at least two such apparatus, said at least another such apparatus comprising:

an audio score output playing mechanism; and

a transmit mechanism for wirelessly transmitting an audio score to said at least two such apparatus for mixing thereby;

wherein said at least another apparatus further comprises:

a second audio score synthesis mechanism operatively coupled with said output mechanism for synthesizing an audio score for transmitting by said transmit mechanism;

a second audio score mixing mechanism coupled with said second synthesis mechanism for mixing plural audio scores to produce another audio score having components of each of the plural audio scores; and

a second audio score input mechanism coupled with said second mixing mechanism to provide one or more input audio scores thereto for mixing with the synthesized and played audio score,

said second synthesis mechanism, said second mixing mechanism and said second input mechanism being operable in real time to create a playable audio score having components of plural audio scores produced by said plural proximate apparatus.

15. (Original) The network of claim 14 wherein at least one of said plural apparatus further comprises a controller configurable as a master controller and at least another of said plural apparatus further comprises a controller configurable as a slave controller wherein said master controller is capable of dictating a mode of operation of said network to said slave controller.

16.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A musical system comprising:

a wireless network; and

plural portable musical apparatus in physically separated proximity with each other and capable of two-way communication therebetween of an audio score over said wireless network, each musical apparatus including:

an audio score synthesis mechanism;

an audio playing mechanism coupled with said network;

an audio input mechanism coupled with said network; and

an audio score mixing mechanism coupled with said synthesis mechanism, said input mechanism and said playing mechanism, said mixing mechanism configured to mix a first audio score from said synthesis mechanism with a second audio score from said input mechanism to produce in real time a playable audio score having components of each of the first and second audio scores; and

at least one of a recording mechanism and an upload mechanism, said recording mechanism to store said playable audio score, and said upload mechanism to upload said playable audio score to an external processor over said wireless network.

28. (Previously Presented) The musical system of claim 27, wherein the playable audio score is in the form of digital data.

29. (Original) The musical system of claim 28, wherein the digital data is formatted in accordance with a musical instrument digital interface (MIDI) standard.

30. (Original) The musical system of claim 29, wherein said wireless network takes the form of a WiFi or Bluetooth network.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (New) The system of claim 11, further comprising a central session host computer, said central session host computer comprising said external processor.

33. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein said central session host computer is proximate to each of said plural proximate apparatus.

34. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein said central session host computer is remote to each of said plural proximate apparatus.

35. (New) The system of claim 11, each of said plural proximate apparatus further comprising user controls to facilitate user selection of operational modes of music synthesis during playback of said playable audio score.

36. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein said user controls comprise front panel controls.

37. (New) The system of claim 36, wherein said front panel controls comprise at least one of a thumb pad and a keypad.

38. (New) The system of claim 35, each of said plural proximate apparatus further comprising a display to display a current musical selection.

39. (New) The musical system of claim 27, each of said plural portable musical apparatus further including user controls to facilitate user selection of operational modes of music synthesis during playback of said playable audio score, said user controls comprising a thumb pad and a keypad.

40. (New) The musical system of claim 39, each of said plural portable musical apparatus further including a display to display a current musical selection.

41. (New) The musical system of claim 27, further comprising a central computer, said central computer comprising said external processor, wherein said central computer is proximate to each of said plural portable musical apparatus.

42. (New) The musical system of claim 27, further comprising a central computer, said central computer comprising said external processor, wherein said central computer is remote to each of said plural portable musical apparatus.